CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE



June 27, 2011

Citizens Redistricting Commission 1130 K Street, Suite 101 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposed Assembly and Senate District Maps for the City of Upland

Dear Members of the Citizens Redistricting Commission:

On behalf of the 74,702 citizens of the City of Upland, the City Council as well as its leadership, we strongly urge the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) to reconsider its proposed Assembly and Senate District Maps and maintain the City of Upland entirely under one Assembly and one Senate District, within San Bernardino County.

The proposed maps released by the Commission show that the City of Upland will be under the SBCUCA Assembly District and the SBBAN Senate District, respectively. The proposed LASGF Assembly District, which contains The City of Upland and a portion of the neighboring city, City of Rancho Cucamonga (both in San Bernardino County), also includes the Los Angeles County communities of La Verne, San Dimas, Glendora, Azusa, Duarte, Sierra Madre, La Canada Flintridge and San Fernando Valley. The proposed LASFG Senate District also includes the aforementioned cities plus Pasadena, South Pasadena, Burbank, and Glendale. Some of these communities are more than 40 miles from Upland and virtually have no commonality or shared interest with the City of Upland.

Clearly, the proposed Draft Maps do not meet the Commission's stated criteria to "respect counties, cities, communities of interest, and neighborhoods, where possible." In fact, the proposed Draft Maps bifurcate a substantial and well established portion of our community and place it into obscurity with over a half-dozen prominent L.A. County communities. The voice of our community, consisting of the 74,702 residents will be completely drowned out by the 465,804 voices in the proposed Assembly District and 932,398 voices in the proposed Senate District that overwhelmingly reside in Los Angeles County.

The residents of our small bedroom community share no community interests with these bigger Los Angeles County communities. All municipal services for the Upland area, including library, community services, community development, animal control, law enforcement services, as well as fire protection are provided by the City of Upland. On a regional basis, transportation issues are addressed through the San Bernardino Association of Governments (SANBAG) and Caltrans District 8. Public transit services for the San Bernardino Valley are provided by OmniTrans. The representation and services that these entities provide in no way overlap or have any connection or relationship with Los Angeles County and the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valley communities that are identified in the proposed District Maps.

The residents of the City of Upland along with neighboring cities and the rest of the Inland Empire have a strong sense of identity with San Bernardino County. There are no commonalities between the residents of

Upland and those of the Los Angeles County. The proposed Assembly and Senate District Maps are a senseless division of Upland and the neighboring communities which make up the Inland Empire, effectively nullifying the communities voices and removing the possibility for strong accurate representation.

For these reasons, the City of Upland as well as partnering communities request that the Commission keep the City of Upland entirely with San Bernardino County and <u>REVISE</u> the Proposed Assembly District Map SBCUCA and Senate District Map SBBAN to reflect accurate representation as a San Bernardino County community.

Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to call Annette Guthrie at (909) 931-4104 if you require any further information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stephen DunnCity Manager

Cc: City Council

ATTACHMENT

